

§ 235.60

§ 235.60 Federal financial participation (FFP) for State and local training.

Sections 235.61 through 235.66 contain (a) State plan requirements for training programs and (b) conditions for Federal financial participation (FFP) for training costs under the State plans. These sections apply to the State plans for the financial assistance programs in all jurisdictions under title I, IV-A, X, XIV, or XVI (AABD) of the Social Security Act.

[45 FR 29833, May 6, 1980]

§ 235.61 Definition of terms.

For purposes of §§ 235.60–235.66:

Act means the Social Security Act, as amended.

A grant to an educational institution means payments to an educational institution for services rendered under a time limited agreement between the State agency and the eligible educational institution which provides for the training of State or local agency employees or persons preparing for employment with the State or local agency.

A training program is the method through which the State agency carries out a plan of educational and training activities to improve the operation of its programs.

(a) *Initial in-service training* means a period of intensive, task-oriented training to prepare new employees to assume job responsibilities.

(b) *Continuing training* means an ongoing program of training planned to enable employees to: (1) Reinforce their basic knowledge and develop the required skills for the performance of specific functions, and (2) acquire additional knowledge and skill to meet changes such as enactment of new legislation, development of new policies, or shifts in program emphasis.

(c) *Full-time training* means training that requires employees to be relieved of all responsibility for performance of current work to participate in a training program.

(d) *Part-time training* means training that allows employees to continue full time in their jobs or requires only partial reduction of work activities to par-

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ticipate in a training program outside of the State or local agency.

(e) *Long-term training* means training for eight consecutive work weeks or longer.

(f) *Short-term training* means training for less than eight consecutive work weeks.

FFP or Federal financial participation means the Federal government's share of expenditures made by a State or local agency under a training program.

Fringe benefits means the employer's share of premiums for industrial compensation, employee's retirement, unemployment compensation, health insurance, and similar expenses.

Persons preparing for employment means individuals who are not yet employed by the State or local agency, but who have received financial assistance from the State agency for training, and have made a legally binding commitment with the State or local agency for future employment under the conditions of these regulations.

Stipend means the basic living allowance paid to a student.

[45 FR 29833, May 6, 1980]

§ 235.62 State plan requirements for training programs.

A State plan under title I, IV-A, X, XIV, or XVI (AABD) of the Act must provide for a training program for agency personnel. The training program must:

(a) Include initial in-service training for newly appointed staff, and continuing agency training opportunities to improve the operation of the program. The training program may also include short-term and long-term training at educational institutions through grants to institutions or by direct financial assistance to students enrolled in institutions who are agency employees or persons preparing for employment with the State or local agency;

(b) Be related to job duties performed or to be performed by the persons trained, and be consistent with the program objectives of the agency; and

(c) Be described in an annual training plan prepared prior to the beginning of the fiscal year. Copies of the training plan shall be made available upon request to the Regional Office of Family

Office of Family Assistance, ACF, HHS

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Assistance for review by the Federal staff.

[45 FR 29833, May 6, 1980, as amended at 46 FR 29264, June 1, 1981]

§ 235.63 Conditions for FFP.

(a) *Who may be trained.* FFP is available only for training provided personnel employed in all classes of positions, volunteers, and persons preparing for employment by the State or local agency administering the program.

(b) *When FFP is available.* FFP is available for personnel employed and persons preparing for employment by the State or local agency provided the following conditions are met, and with the following limitations:

(1) Employees in full-time, long-term training make a commitment to work in the agency for a period of time equal to the period for which financial assistance is granted. A State agency may exempt an employee from fulfilling this commitment only if failure to continue in employment is due to death, disability, employment in a financial assistance program in a public assistance agency in another State, or other emergent circumstances determined by the single State agency head to be valid for exemption;

(2) An employee retains his or her rights and benefits in the agency while on full-time, long-term training leave;

(3) Persons preparing for employment are selected by the State agency and accepted by the school;

(4) Persons preparing for employment are pursuing educational programs approved by the State agency;

(5) Persons preparing for employment are committed to work for State or local agency for a period of time at least equal to the period for which financial assistance is granted if employment is offered within 2 months after training is completed;

(6) The State or local agency offers the individual preparing for employment a job upon completion of training unless precluded by merit system requirements, legislative budget cuts, position freezes, or other circumstances beyond the agency's control; and if unable to offer employment, releases the individual from his or her commitment;

(7) The State agency keeps a record of the employment of persons trained. If the persons are not employed by the State or local agency, the record specifies the reason for non-employment;

(8) The State agency evaluates the training programs; and

(9) Any recoupment of funds by the State from trainees failing to fulfill their commitment under this section shall be treated as a refund and deducted from total training costs for the purpose of determining net costs for FFP.

(c) *Grants to educational institutions.* FFP is available in payments for services rendered under grants to educational institutions provided all of the following conditions are met:

(1) Grants are made for the purpose of developing, expanding, or improving training for personnel employed by the State or local agency or preparing for employment by the State or local agency administering the program. Grants are made for an educational program (curriculum development, classroom instruction, field instruction, or any combination of these) that is directly related to the agency's program. Grants are made for not more than 3 years, but may be renewed, subject to the conditions of this section;

(2) Grants are made to educational institutions and programs that are accredited by the appropriate institutional accrediting body recognized by the U.S. Commissioner of Education. When a specialized program within the institution for which there is a specialized accrediting body is used, that program must be accredited by or have pre-accreditation status from that body. (Part 149 of this title explains the requirements and procedures for obtaining recognition as an accrediting agency or association. Lists of currently recognized accrediting bodies are published in the FEDERAL REGISTER periodically. *See also Nationally Recognized Accrediting Agencies and Associations* published by the Office of Education);

(3) The State agency has written policies establishing conditions and procedures for such grants;

(4) Each grant describes objectives in terms of how the educational program is related to the financial assistance